2013

Creating Connections to Shining Stars

Virginia’s Collaborative Early Childhood Birth through Five Conference

July 22nd – 24th, 2013

Virginia Beach, Virginia
Creating Connections to Shining Stars is a collaborative effort between state agencies and early childhood programs in Virginia. The conference focuses on promoting and supporting the implementation of evidence-based practices in inclusive settings for young children, both with and without disabilities.
We are extremely proud to have so many state agencies and programs collaborating on the conference this year! The result of these entities working together is a very solid, professional development event that includes individuals who will share their knowledge and expertise through more than 70 seminars and sessions. Over the next three days, you will be able to choose from topics that range from building relationships with families to using specific strategies to meet the social-emotional and learning needs of young children. We hope you will find this a great opportunity to focus on evidence-based practices that help all young children learn and grow into truly successful adults with fulfilling lives.

We are pleased to have Dr. William Henderson as our keynote speaker. Dr. Henderson will highlight his years of experience working to increase the quality of education for all children, including those from diverse ethnic, linguistic, and ability backgrounds. During his career, he was firmly focused on removing the barriers to equal opportunities that many children encounter in the educational system. His message is sure to inspire us to be champions of inclusive practices within our own communities!

Dr. Rebecca Landa, an expert in the field of autism, is our invited speaker for the Communities of Practice in Autism (CoPA) seminar. Dr. Landa will discuss the emergence of autism spectrum disorders (ASD) and evidence-based early intervention strategies for addressing social and communication deficits in the context of learning and play. She will provide a brief overview of strategies for parent coaching. To learn more about working with children who have autism, don’t miss this seminar on Monday afternoon!

All day Tuesday, the Assistive Technology (AT) staff from the VDOE’s Training & Technical Assistance Centers will hold sessions in Orion’s on the 11th floor of the Cavalier Oceanfront. Join them for fun, interactive sessions where you can create materials to take with you to use with young children to enhance communication and literacy skills. Look for session times on the Teacher’s Assistive Technology Playroom page in this program.

New this year! Some of our vendors have prepared short presentations which they will conduct in the Exhibitor Hall at their tables. To find out who is presenting, check the Vendor page towards the back of this program. Please be sure to visit our fabulous vendors who are here because they understand the importance of providing young children with the very best start in life!

We hope Creating Connections to Shining Stars will be a way for you to get to know others who share your passion for working with young children. We hope you will take a look at your own community and consider how you could strengthen cross-agency collaboration and build relationships that will help increase the inclusion of all children in every child-appropriate learning environment. And while you’re here: Take the time to pat yourselves on the back for the work you do! The future of our world depends on professionals like you who take every opportunity to learn and grow so that our young children have the optimal chance to do the same!

Please enjoy the conference!

Harolynn (Lynn) O. Wiley, Ph.D.
2013 CCSS Conference Coordinator
VDOE TTAC at GMU

Sandy L. Wilberger, M.Ed.
2013 CCSS Conference Coordinator
VDOE TTAC at VCU
Make & Take Activities with Boardmaker®
Presented by the VDOE TTAC Assistive Technology Staff

8-9:30 Visual Supports
Create visuals that are fun and engaging! Make aprons, activity boards, wrist bands, or lanyards to support language and communication!

10-11:30 Adapting Books
Learn how to adapt books and create literacy materials using everyday items. Make reading books interactive and exciting for young children!

1-2:30 Songs
Enhance children’s songs with finger plays, song boards, and puppets! You might even learn a new song to sing with your children!

3-4:30 Interactive Play
Creativity is the key to taking ordinary items and making them into extraordinary things that facilitate interactive play with young children!

The Boardmaker® Theatre
Open All Day!
Learn how to use Boardmaker, create symbols, print and laminate materials!

All Day Tuesday
Orion’s 11th Floor
The Cavalier Oceanfront
### Sunday - July 21, 2013

- **6:30-8:00pm** Registration available

### Monday - July 22, 2013

Seminars and sessions are color coded by chronological age, as Infants & Toddlers, Early Childhood, or All young children, birth through age 5 years. Those with a star before the title are focused on issues and information related to supporting young children with special needs in an inclusive environment. Please read the presentation descriptions for more details on content.

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- General conference
- ★ Content of this session focuses on young children with special needs in inclusive settings
- ▲ Session material available to download

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<td>8:15-9:00</td>
<td>Welcome/Announcements</td>
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<td>A Developing Brain and a Growing Child: Wired for Early Learning</td>
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<td>Prematurity: Changing Outcomes by Changing Care</td>
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<td>★ Using Assistive Technology in the Preschool Classroom</td>
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<td>Empowering Families: Best Practices for Building Connections in Early Intervention</td>
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<td>1:00-2:30</td>
<td>CoPA at the Beach</td>
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<td>1:00-2:30</td>
<td>★ Early Signs of Autism Spectrum Disorders and the Early Achievements Intervention Approach</td>
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<td>Beach Club A/B</td>
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<td>Stewards of Children: Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training</td>
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<td>2:30-3:00</td>
<td>★ It’s All Fun and Games: Using Video Modeling to Teach Play Skills</td>
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<td>What Happens When You Combine Early Intervention and Infant Mental Health? Success!</td>
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<td>Typical and Atypical Motor Development in Children Birth to Three</td>
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<td>Give Your Classroom a Tune-Up: Using Music as an Integrated Teaching Tool</td>
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<td>★ Telepractice: Speech Therapy for Preschoolers via Videoconferencing</td>
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| 8:00-9:30    | • What All Children Really Need: Effective Strategies for Building Social-Emotional Skills  
               • Child Outcomes Gone Awry                                            
               • Providing an “In Sync” Classroom for Young Children              
               • Building the Bridge: Connecting with Families, Educators, and Specialists  
               • Rhythm, Rhyme, and Repetition: Using Music to Teach Essential Skills  
               • The “Vision” of Their Future: Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers with Visual Impairments  
               • Informational Session on the Virginia Cross Sector Professional Development (VCPD) System  
               • Get Up Off the Floor! Implementing Early Intervention Where Everyday Magic Happens |
| 9:30-10:00   | Break/Vendors open                                                       |
| 10:00-11:30  | • Home Visitor Safety: Recognizing Meth Use in Homes                     
               • Increasing Motivation to Communicate in Children with Autism      
               • Intentional Teaching, Powerful Interactions                        
               • Casting a Wide Net to Support Young Children Experiencing Homelessness  
               • Exploring the Relationship Between Temperament, Self-Regulation, and Early Brain Development in Infants and Toddlers  
               • Including Children with Disabilities: How Early Childhood Administrators Prepare for Change to Support Inclusion  
               • Understanding Cortical Vision Impairment (CVI) and Strategies to Maximize the Learning Environment  
               • When the DSM Changes from IV to V Does That = Less Autism?    |
| 11:30-Noon   | Break/Vendors open                                                       |
| Noon-1:00    | Boxed lunches will be provided                                            |
| 1:00-2:30    | • We’re All in This Together! Skills and Scenarios for Providing Supports and Services in Natural Environments  
               • Ready to Learn: Healthy Inclusion                                  
               • Theme Stretchers: Extending Thematic Units to Increase Motivation and Learning  
               • Mandated Reporting of Child Abuse and Neglect                    
               • “He’s So Smart, But...” Why Executive Function Skills are as Important as Math or Reading  
               • Bouncing Back: Teaching Resilience to Preschoolers               
               • “Learn the Signs. Act Early.” Explore Free Materials for Promoting Early Developmental Screening  
               • “What If ...?” Understanding Eligibility, Assessment, and Transition Requirements Through Scenarios |
| 2:30-3:00    | Break/Vendors open                                                       |
| 3:00-4:30    | • Overview of the Autism Insurance Mandate: Providing Applied Behavior Analysis for Children with Autism  
               • Act Locally, Think Inclusively: Collaborative Financing to Promote Early Childhood Inclusion  
               • The Attachment Project: A Love Story in Three Parts               
               • Using Evidence-Based Practices to Build Social-Emotional Skills in Children with Autism  
               • The Seven Keys: Applying the Principles of Early Intervention into Everyday Practices  
               • Let’s Get Writing!!                                               
               • We Are All Special! Meeting the Needs of Individual Infants and Toddlers |
**Wednesday - July 24, 2013**

Seminars and sessions are color coded by chronological age, as Infants & Toddlers, Early Childhood, or All young children, birth through age 5 years. Those with a star before the title are focused on issues and information related to supporting young children with special needs in an inclusive environment. Please read the presentation descriptions for more details on content.

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| 8:00-9:30     | ★ Be Informed! Be Authentic! Think Outside the Box of Your Standard Test Tool Kit  
                ★ ACE-IT in College: A Choice for the Future  
                ★ Collaboration and Coaching: Part C Style  
                ★ Providing Services as a Monolingual Provider in a Multilingual Community  
                ★ Preventing Challenging Behavior Part I: Developing Supportive Relationships and Environments  
                Early Childhood Trauma: Consequences and Effects  
                ★ Inclusive Learning Environments: Supporting Cognitive, Language, and Positive Behavior Skill Development  
                Making Math “Count” in Preschool                                                                 |
| 9:30-10:00    | Break/Vendors open                                                                                            |
| 10:00-11:30   | ★ Mother’s Milk to Mac and Cheese: A Collaborative Oral Motor Feeding Approach  
                ★ All the Preschool Buzz: Will It Affect Us? Part B Updates  
                ★ Talk, Sing, Read, Write, Play: Making Every Book an Experience  
                ★ Improving Private Insurance Reimbursement: Coding and Documentation is the Key  
                ★ Preventing Challenging Behavior Part II: Be Proactive! Be Positive! Practical Strategies that Work  
                Early Childhood Trauma: Working with Young Trauma Victims                                                                 |
| 11:30-1:00    | Plated lunch provided/Vendors open                                                                            |
| 1:00-2:30     | ★ Identifying Early Indicators of Autism from Birth through Early Childhood  
                ★ How Do YOU Rate?  
                ★ Having Fun with Math, Science, Literacy, Communication and Social Skills  
                ★ Partnering for Quality  
                ★ Preventing Challenging Behavior Part III: Identifying Triggers and Teaching Replacement Behaviors  
                ★ How to Implement Family Cost Share Practices in Real Family Situations  
| 2:30-3:00     | Break/Vendors open                                                                                            |
| 3:00-4:30     | Discovering Developmental Effects of Using iPads with Young Children  
                ★ Medicaid Waivers: Helping Families of Young Children Access EDCD, ID, and DD Waivers  
                ★ Making the Most of Circle Time: Differentiating for Diverse Learning Needs  
                Special Quest: Building Relationships with Families  
                ★ It’s About More Than Cookies: Enhancing Communication in ALL Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder  
                ★ Breaking New Ground in Early Intervention Assessment  
                2013 Creating Connections to Shining Stars                                                                 |
The Virginia Division of Early Childhood Meeting

Tuesday, July 23rd  
Noon – 12:45pm  
Location: Captain’s Table A

Curious? Want to join? Already a member?  
Grab your box lunch and come see what we’re about!

The Virginia Division for Early Childhood (VA DEC) is part of an international membership organization for those who work with or on behalf of young children with disabilities and other special needs.

Our mission is to promote policies and advance evidence-based practices to support the optimal development of young children with special needs.

Check out our web page: http://www.dec-sped.org/Virginia_DEC

What is going on in Virginia?

Come join committee members from:

• Communities of Practice in Autism (CoPA),

• Virginia Association for Infant Mental Health (VAIMH) and the Infant Mental Health Endorsement

• Virginia Cross-Sector Professional Development Regional Consortia (VCPD)

to learn about these statewide initiatives and how the activities of these groups can play an important role in your day-to-day work with infants, toddlers and preschoolers and their families.

Light refreshments will be served.

When: Monday, July 22, 2013 from 4:45-6:00 pm  
Where: Outdoor Deck
2013 CCSS
Keynote Speaker
Dr. William Henderson

“You should get out of education.” That was the advice our keynote presenter, then a first-year teacher, received when it was discovered that he was gradually losing his vision. But he did not let that message deter him. He persevered, serving for over 36 years in the Boston Public Schools and receiving a doctorate in instructional leadership from the University of Massachusetts. Eventually, he became co-founder and principal of the Patrick O’Hearn Elementary School in Boston, a nationally-recognized school attended by students with a wide array of ethnic, linguistic, mental, physical, and socio-economic concerns. As principal there, Dr. Henderson worked to overcome the many barriers to equal opportunity that children with disabilities encountered in, and beyond, the educational system. He encouraged teachers to use accelerated learning techniques and multi-sensory approaches to help all students meet primary literacy standards. He also involved parents in all major decisions, promoted parent training and created a strong family outreach program. Dr. Henderson is the author of a book based on his experiences: The Blind Advantage: How Going Blind Made Me a Stronger Principal and How Including Children with Disabilities Made Our School Better for Everyone.

Dr. Henderson’s success at O’Hearn, his many publications, frequent speaking engagements, and numerous distinguished service awards are testimony to his effective educational practices. Upon his retirement in 2009, he received the Blind Educator of the Year Award from the National Organization of Blind Educators, an award that recognizes an outstanding teacher for excellent classroom performance, uncommon community service, and outstanding commitment to the National Federation of the Blind. That same year, the city of Boston, the Boston School Committee, and O’Hearn Elementary renamed the school the Dr. William H. Henderson Inclusive Elementary School.

2013 Communities of Practice in Autism (CoPA)
Keynote Speaker
Dr. Rebecca Landa

Rebecca Landa, PhD, CCC-SLP, is the founder and director of the Center for Autism and Related Disorders (CARD) and the REACH research program at Kennedy Krieger Institute. She is also a professor of psychiatry at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine.

Dr. Landa’s research has focused on neuropsychological, learning and communication processes in autism across the lifespan. She was the principal investigator of a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Studies to Advance Autism Research (STARRT) Center of Excellence, through which she developed and defined the evidence-base for the Early Achievements intervention for toddlers with autism spectrum disorders (ASD). She has pioneered research aimed at identifying the earliest signs of autism through the study of infant siblings of children with autism. She is a member of the executive committee for Autism Speaks’ Baby Sibs Research Consortium and is a member of the Toddler Treatment Network. Dr. Landa is also the principal investigator for an Autism Treatment Network site, and is a co-principal investigator for two studies funded by the Centers for Disease Control and National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). Dr. Landa is the author of the Pragmatic Rating Scale, used internationally in autism-related research and clinical practice. Her current research focus is on learning processes in autism, as well as early detection of and intervention for autism spectrum disorders (ASD).

Dr. Landa obtained her master’s degree at the Pennsylvania State University and her doctorate at the University of Washington. She has also completed post-doctoral training in psychiatric genetics at Johns Hopkins. She is the recipient of the NIMH Shannon Award for excellent and innovative research, as well as the Rita Rudel Prize for Developmental Neuropsychology. Dr. Landa is also the recipient of the 2009 Alumni Recognition Award from the College of Human Health and Development of the Pennsylvania State University.
**CONFERENCE SCHEDULE 2013**

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**Sunday, July 21st**
6:30 - 8:00pm | Registration available
Location: Beach Club Foyer

**Monday, July 22nd**
7:00 - 8:30am | Registration opens
Location: Beach Club Foyer

8:00am - 4:30pm | Vendors open
Location: Beach Club C Exhibit Hall

8:15 - 9:00am | Welcome/Announcements
Location: Beach Club A/B

9:00 - 11:00am | Opening Keynote Address
Location: Beach Club A/B

**LEADING INCLUSION:**
**STUDENTS WITH AND WITHOUT DISABILITIES LEARN TOGETHER AND FROM EACH OTHER MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION AND SUCCESSFUL PERFORMANCE IN LIFE**
Presenter: Dr. William Henderson
Distinguished Educator, Boston, MA

A well-known champion of inclusionary practices, Dr. Henderson will address how certain key qualities – determination, vision, sensitivity, organization, collaboration, and humor – help a person become a highly effective educator within an environment that meets the needs of all students. “We want all students from diverse ethnic, linguistic, and ability backgrounds to participate in rigorous academic classes. Whether they see or not, whether they use wheelchairs or not, whether they have autism or not, we want them to participate in rich arts experiences and extracurricular activities. We want all of our children to figure out how they can best contribute, starting out in their homes and in their schools. Ultimately, the goal of education is to contribute in our communities and in the greater world.”

11:30 - Noon | Vendors open
Noon - 1:00pm | Lunch on your own
1:00 - 4:30pm | Breakout Seminars

**SEMINAR 1:**
**COPA ON THE BEACH**
**EARLY SIGNS OF AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS AND THE EARLY ACHIEVEMENTS INTERVENTION APPROACH**
Presenter: Rebecca Landa, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Location: Beach Club A/B

This presentation will focus on the emergence of autism spectrum disorders (ASD) from infancy through 36 months of age and evidence-based early intervention strategies. Video examples will be used to illustrate how the early social and communication behaviors of ASD differ from typical development. This presentation will also briefly explain the learning needs of young children with ASD, followed by description of essential ingredients for addressing core social and communication deficits in the context of learning and play. Information about the evidence-based Early Achievements intervention for toddlers with ASD will be presented. Video examples will be shown to illustrate the instructional principles, and to illustrate developmental play levels so as to promote the identification of developmentally appropriate learning targets. Ideas for how to select motivating and learning-enhancing therapeutic materials will be discussed. A brief overview of strategies for parent coaching will also be discussed.
Seminar 2: Stewards of Children: Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Training
Presenter: Amia N. Barrows
Location: Captain's Table B

*Limited to 25 participants. $10 fee to attend. Fee will be collected at the session.

Darkness to Light is an international non-profit organization striving to reduce the incidence of child sexual abuse by empowering people to prevent it. Our training program, Stewards of Children, is a revolutionary sexual abuse prevention program that educates adults to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to the issue. The cornerstone of this program is an interactive workbook and video. Training components include the principles of: choice, consciousness and personal power to promote an understanding of the nature and impact of child sexual abuse and provide a context for empowered action. The Stewards of Children program is the only nationally available program proven to increase knowledge, improve attitudes and change child-protective behaviors.

1:00 - 2:30 | Breakout Sessions

A Developing Brain and A Growing Child: Wired for Early Learning
Cathy Cook and Stacie Jackson
Location: Coral Reef A/B

As early childhood interventionists and teachers we will do our jobs best if we understand how the brain’s development and the child’s growth are intertwined. Recent advances in neurobiology and research gives us more information than we have ever had before. To give our children the best environments for growing and learning we need to understand how the “gray matter” really matters.

Prematurity: Changing Outcomes by Changing Care
Karen Hennes and Sharon L. Gilbert, Ph.D.
Location: Coral Reef C

What was life like for your premature infant before you started working with her? While more premature babies are surviving, due to the excellent medical care they receive in the NICU, many will live with physical and mental challenges. Attendees will learn what’s happening in the NICU to not only preserve the lives of these infants, but also improve their quality of life.

Using Assistive Technology in the Preschool Classroom
Alison Dauray Speich, MAT, M.S., CCC-SLP and Amanda Bennett, M.Ed.
Location: Coral Reef D

This presentation will discuss assistive technology with an emphasis on augmentative and alternative communication (AAC). The presenters, a speech-language pathologist and an early childhood special education teacher, use AAC throughout daily activities in a special education preschool classroom. The participants will learn about different forms of assistive technology and view examples in the classroom. Participants will discuss opportunities for incorporating assistive technology into the school day and the collaboration that is needed with team members to ensure success. Participants will understand the benefits of AAC and how it supports independence and verbal expression.

Child Find Screenings: Considerations for Preschoolers who are Culturally and Linguistically Diverse
Barbara Madgwick, Meg Paganelli and Karen Donberger
Location: Coral Reef E

This round-table discussion will present information about considerations and challenges surrounding screenings and special education referrals for 2-5 year olds who are culturally and linguistically diverse.

Beyond Name Writing: Promoting Rich Writing Experiences in the Early Childhood Classroom
Stefanie B. Copp and Sonia Q. Cabell
Location: Captain's Table A

Providing preschoolers with early writing opportunities can help lay a foundation for their later reading and writing success. During this interactive session, participants will understand how children’s early writing relates to other literacy achievements, learn about the developmental progression of writing in young children (from scribbling to invented spelling), and learn techniques for implementing writing throughout the day. Three contexts will be emphasized: centers, journals, and morning message. Case study examples will be used to illustrate how teachers can support preschoolers’ literacy skills through writing.

Empowering Families: Best Practices for Building Connections in Early Intervention
Sarah H. Pavitt, M.Ed. and Georgeanne B.C. Hirshey, M.Ed.
Location: Captain's Table C
Creating partnerships with parents and caregivers is essential to facilitating best outcomes in early intervention. When practitioners have a framework that guides their interactions with families and young children, coaching can be effectively used in a coordinated effort towards family-driven goals and priorities. Building relationships with families is an ongoing process that is essential to effective teamwork. Participants in this session will learn how to create a framework to guide their own practice, strategies for communicating effectively with families, and how the coaching model, used in natural environments, leads to the best outcomes for children and families involved in early intervention.

2:30 - 3:00pm | Break/Vendors open

3:00 - 4:30pm | Breakout Sessions

**TYPICAL AND ATYPICAL MOTOR DEVELOPMENT IN CHILDREN BIRTH TO THREE**
Tracy Shiplett, PT and Lorna Sher, OTR/L
Location: Coral Reef A/B

This session will provide a summary of critical skills in early motor development and strategies on how to help facilitate age-appropriate development through parent coaching. The session will also give a brief description of some atypical motor skills in early development and the impact on overall development. This session is targeted to individuals looking to gain a better understanding of early motor skill development and its impact on later developmental skills.

**HELP! I’M SINKING AND READY TO ABANDON THE SHIP**
Kendall Lee, Cheryl Thompson and Judy Alonzi
Location: Coral Reef C

Are you new to the early childhood field? Are you sinking and ready to stop working with young children? Well don’t get out of the boat yet! Attend this session and discover how to right the boat so you’re sailing once again (or right the boat and chart a new course). Through hands-on activities, discussion, and interaction with experienced practitioners, participants will identify their level of adaptability and approach to solving problems, learn how to apply what they know to solve problems, recognize the importance and benefits of collegial relationships, identify at least two ways to ask others for assistance, and collaborate with other participants and an experienced practitioner to generate at least one new solution to a problem they have encountered in their job.

**GIVE YOUR CLASSROOM A TUNE-UP: USING MUSIC AS AN INTEGRATED TEACHING TOOL**
Paula K. Midock
Location: Coral Reef D

Music, movement and learning go hand in hand for the young child. Discover the power of music as a teaching tool when used throughout the curriculum and the day. Actively explore and experience ways to use music in your classroom to present and reinforce skill development. Areas include memory, language, listening (vs. hearing), attending, basic content, social skills, motor skills and more.

**★TELEPRACTICE: SPEECH THERAPY FOR PRESCHOOLERS VIA VIDEOCONFERENCING**
Brooke Lambert and Molly Wallace
Location: Coral Reef E

Therapists from Chesapeake Children’s Therapy Center in Springfield, VA implemented an innovative telepractice program to provide speech therapy services for children with limited access. Barriers of face-to-face sessions include geographical, medical, or transportation complications. The telepractice team will define telepractice, review research regarding efficacy, explain in general terms the required technology to meet HIPAA regulations, detail benefits to this service model, and review the child/parent/clinician responsibilities during a session. The session will also present examples of telepractice video clips. Preliminary findings show highly satisfied parents and low cancellation rates. Implications for the future of telepractice will be reviewed.

**★IT’S ALL FUN AND GAMES: USING VIDEO MODELING TO TEACH PLAY SKILLS**
Lauren Kravetz Bonnet, Ph.D., CCC-SLP
Location: Captain’s Table A

This session presents original research examining the effects of point-of-view video modeling on symbolic play and student behavior to a group of culturally and linguistically diverse preschoolers with autism. Videos from the study will be shared to illustrate the intervention in a hands-on manner. At the conclusion of the session, participants will be able summarize the significance and evidence supporting teaching play and behavior skills to preschoolers with autism. They will also be able to explain the findings of using point-of-view video modeling to teach pretend play skills and increase appropriate play behaviors. Last, participants will be able to describe the steps needed to develop and implement video modeling interventions with fidelity in the classroom.
Learn about the continuum between early intervention and infant mental health, the working description of infant mental health and how the infant mental health treatment enhances the family and child's ability to maximize their early intervention services.

Tuesday, July 23rd

7:00 - 8:00am | Continental Breakfast | Registration/Vendors open
Location: Beach Club Foyer/Exhibit Hall

8:00 - 9:30am | Breakout Sessions

🌌 WHAT ALL CHILDREN REALLY NEED: EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES FOR BUILDING SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SKILLS
Mary Lynn White
Location: Coral Reef A/B

This interactive session will highlight research-based approaches that teach children to stop and think, express strong feelings appropriately, care about others, and resolve conflicts peacefully. Using lively discussion, music, and activities, participants will learn practical strategies for strengthening children’s self-control and social-emotional skills that can be easily implemented in their classrooms.

🌌 ☄️ CHILD OUTCOMES GONE AWRY
Beth Tolley and Anne Brager
Location: Coral Reef C

Participants will learn how implementing quality practices with a focus on the three child indicator/outcome areas lead to meaningful individual IFSP child outcomes, effective interventions, and great results for children and families. Through examples of common communication missteps and missed opportunities, participants will be able to reflect on their own practices and identify strategies to improve collaboration with families.

🌌 PROVIDING AN “IN SYNC” CLASSROOM FOR YOUNG CHILDREN
Beth Kimlick
Location: Coral Reef D

Children who are “out of sync” experience a variety of sensory processing problems and exhibit behavior that is misunderstood. This workshop will explain sensory processing difficulties and provide a variety of classroom strategies that will help provide a sensory-rich environment for the success of ALL children.

🌌 ★ BUILDING THE BRIDGE: CONNECTING WITH FAMILIES, EDUCATORS, AND SPECIALISTS
Heather Fleming, M.Ed. and Erin Whitmer
Location: Coral Reef E

Parents are the experts on their children; educators are the experts on developmental practices and teachings; specialists are the experts on Speech, OT, PT, etc. How do we all collaborate to find the most effective ways to help our children? Heather Fleming, teacher, will provide insight on how to effectively ‘build the bridge’ between each collaborating expert. Erin Whitmer, parent, will provide insight on how to empower parents. This presentation will give practical tips on: how to consistently teach our kiddos in all environments, how to run an effective and family-focused IEP or IFSP meeting, and how to collaborate effectively with all the experts!

🌌 RHYTHM, RHYME, AND REPETITION: USING MUSIC TO TEACH ESSENTIAL SKILLS
Cathy Bollinger, MA, MT-BC
Location: Captain’s Table A

Come clap your hands and sing along as music therapist and children's performer, Cathy Bollinger, shows how music can be used to teach social skills, early literacy, healthy habits and more! Cathy demonstrates how songs can be introduced, adapted, and built into your curriculum. The session also touches upon music and the brain, using music with children who have special needs, and lyric writing. Participants will leave with new songs and activities to use with their children!
THE “VISION” OF THEIR FUTURE: INFANTS, TODDLERS, AND PRESCHOOLERS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS
Lisa D. Auwarter
Location: Captain’s Table B

This will include an overview of visual impairments most prevalent in infants, toddlers and preschoolers including Cortical Visual Impairment, and the effects of visual impairment on each area of development. Following some lively simulation activities, we will discuss appropriate and practical strategies to implement in the child’s daily routines. Participants will become familiar with two assessments which have been modified for children with visual impairments and how to incorporate them in the IFSP and IEP planning.

INFORMATIONAL SESSION ON THE VIRGINIA CROSS-SECTOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (VCPD) SYSTEM
Sandy Wilberger and Mary Tobin
Location: Captain’s Table C

Early childhood professional development in Virginia is taking on a new look. Come learn more about the Virginia Cross Sector Professional Development system. Participants will learn about the history of the VCPD, the five regional PD consortia and how they can be a part of this exciting new opportunity.

GET UP OFF THE FLOOR! IMPLEMENTING EARLY INTERVENTION WHERE EVERYDAY MAGIC HAPPEENS
Cori Hill, M.Ed. and Dana Childress, M.Ed.
Location: Beach Club A/B

Join us to think about how to move early intervention “off of the floor” and into the routines that naturally occur in children and families’ everyday lives. Come learn practical strategies that link family-centered IFSP outcomes to meaningful intervention that focuses on the “everyday magic” that happens throughout each day. This session will focus on the use of routines-based practices for early intervention practitioners. Information will encourage learners to reflect on their current practices and consider how to integrate routines-based approaches into their work with families of young children with delays and disabilities.

9:30 - 10:00am | Break/Vendors open
10:00 - 11:30am | Breakout Sessions

HOME VISITOR SAFETY: RECOGNIZING METH USE IN HOMES
Lt. Jason Robinson, Virginia State Police
Location: Coral Reef A/B

This program will educate the attendees on methods currently used to manufacture methamphetamine (meth), the hazards that you are subjected to in a meth lab, and how to recognize items used in the manufacture of methamphetamine. The class will allow students to be able to visually identify the most widely used chemicals and components of a meth lab. Additionally, time is spent discussing drug endangered children and highlighting the recommended procedures for dealing with persons removed from meth labs.

INCREASING MOTIVATION TO COMMUNICATE IN CHILDREN WITH AUTISM
Kelly Barrett, M.Ed., BCBA
Location: Coral Reef C

This session will provide an overview of evidenced-based practices for ECSE and instruction on the Verbal Behavior approach. Special attention will be placed on motivation, pairing and instructional control as well as a brief overview of Verbal Behavior and its operators. Some time will be set aside to discuss materials that are effective in this instructional approach. Videos will be shared throughout the presentation and resources to review after the conference will also be shared.

INTENTIONAL TEACHING, POWERFUL INTERACTIONS
Marie Smith and Erica Madison
Location: Coral Reef D

This workshop is designed to connect early childhood educators with children in their classrooms, to extend the children’s learning, as well as identify and understand the importance of powerful interactions with children.
CASTING A WIDE NET TO SUPPORT YOUNG CHILDREN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS
Patricia A. Popp
Location: Coral Reef E

Did you know that families with young children are the fastest growing subgroup experiencing homelessness or that most of the children served in shelters are under age five? Come learn about current and proposed legislation and practical strategies to support our youngest children without homes.

EXPLORING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TEMPERAMENT, SELF-REGULATION, AND EARLY BRAIN DEVELOPMENT IN INFANTS AND TODDLERS
Debbie Lickey and Bonnie Grifa
Location: Captain's Table A

In this session, we will explore the relationship between infant and toddler early social-emotional and brain development, as well as the influence of infant and toddler temperament on self-regulation and the presence of challenging behaviors. Participants will be provided resources and strategies in an interactive group process in order to facilitate caregiver knowledge of early social-emotional development, as well as how to optimize this important stage of early childhood.

INCLUDING CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES: HOW EARLY CHILDHOOD ADMINISTRATORS PREPARE FOR CHANGE TO SUPPORT INCLUSION
Kim Moherek Sopko, Ed.D. and Sarika Gupta, Ph.D.
Location: Captain's Table B

This workshop enables early childhood administrators to gain knowledge about and discuss systems thinking, and reflect upon their individual as well as program readiness for change in order to implement or improve an inclusive program.

UNDERSTANDING CORTICAL VISION IMPAIRMENT (CVI) AND STRATEGIES TO MAXIMIZE THE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT
Julie Durando
Location: Captain's Table C

Cortical Vision Impairment (CVI) is characterized by visual behaviors that cannot be explained by the child’s eye exam, which is often normal. These behaviors, such as light gazing, looking away when reaching for an object, looking away from faces, and visual inattention, can be confused with off-task behavior, disinterest, autistic characteristics, or even indicators of low cognitive ability. However, they may be the result of difficulty processing the visual and sensory environment. Participants will learn the 10 characteristics of CVI, how these characteristics relate to our brain’s processing of sensory information, and strategies to improve the learning environment. Video simulations and video examples of the visual behaviors will illustrate main concepts.

WHEN THE DSM CHANGES FROM IV TO V DOES THAT = LESS AUTISM?
John Harrington, M.D.
Location: Beach Club A/B

The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual for Mental Disorders (DSM-V) was just released in May and there are changes in the criteria related to diagnosing autism. Many autism experts are concerned that the new guidelines will make it harder to diagnose someone with autism and may cause children to lose the diagnostic label. This session will review the changes to the DSM-V and discuss the benefits as well as the challenges of utilizing the new criteria and how it might affect educational and community services.

11:30 - Noon | Break/Vendors open
11:30 - 1:00pm | Box lunches provided/Vendors open
Noon - 12:45pm | VA DEC Meeting
   Location: Captain’s Table A
1:00 - 2:30pm Breakout Sessions

WE’RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER! SKILLS AND SCENARIOS FOR PROVIDING SUPPORTS AND SERVICES IN NATURAL ENVIRONMENTS
Cory Hall and Belinda Hooper
Location: Coral Reef A/B

Through discussion and role playing, participants will identify and refine skills necessary for providing supports and services in natural environments. Additionally, similarities and differences between the Part B and Part C systems will be explored.
READy TO LEARN: HEALTHy INCLuSION
Bethany Geldmaker, PNP, Ph.D.
Location: Coral Reef C

This session will focus on the essential role of caregivers in the what, why, and how of providing healthy, safe, and inclusive environments in child care settings. Effective health and safety practices that impact each child’s learning and lifelong well-being will be discussed. Research and important information on the most frequent health and safety issues facing children will be shared. Participants will be engaged in discovering how they can create environments that are healthy and safe. Strategies for embracing change will prepare participants for their important role in providing the best inclusive care possible.

THEME STRETChERS: extending THEMATIC UNITS TO INCREASe MOTIVATION AND LEARNING
Jo Claire Marshall, Mary Harper, Sharon Eller and Debbie Gunderson
Location: Coral Reef D

The more a child is engaged, the more positive the outcomes in behavior, problem solving and interactions with others. Come learn how to increase engagement in your classroom by extending literacy-based thematic units to allow for the children to further explore and benefit from the repeated exposure to vocabulary and concepts while keeping activities interesting. Specific focuses will include center-based activities and fostering a home-school connection.

MANDATED REPORTING OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT
Mary Walter, MSW and Gail Heath-Davidson, MSW
Location: Coral Reef E

This workshop will cover new legislative changes regarding mandated reporting that went into effect July 1, 2012. Additionally, participants will get a brief overview of mandated reporter responsibilities, how to make a report to child protective services and what happens after a report has been made. Participants will receive an informational booklet prepared by the Virginia Department of Social Services. There will be an opportunity for questions and answers at the end.

“He’s so Smart, BuT...” Why ExeCuTIVe Function SKills ArE As IMPORTANt As mATh OR ReADINg
Ann Janney-Schultz
Location: Captain’s Table A

Research shows that skills such as persistence, self control and memory are critical to school success. In this session, participants will learn what executive function skills are, why they are important, and how teachers can support their development.

BOuNCINg BACK: TeAChINg ReSILIeNCe TO PReSChOoLeRS
Deborah A. Yerby and Arleatha Stokes
Location: Captain’s Table B

What can I do as a teacher to help preschoolers through traumatic events in their lives or even a death of a beloved pet? What strategies are available to me as a teacher and what can I do to help their parents? There are some strategies and ideas that can pull everyone through adverse situations. Come and discover what can work, will work, and does work to help children bounce back from adversity!

“LeARN The SIgNS. ACT eARLy.” exPLORe FREE mATeRIALS FOR PROmOTINg eARLY DeVeLOPmeNTAL SCReeNINg
Deana Buck
Location: Captain’s Table C

Have you ever heard of “Learn the Signs. Act Early?” The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention started this campaign in 2004 to help families, caregivers, and physicians learn more about the importance of early developmental screening - and what to do if there is a concern. The key is ACTING EARLY. The campaign has developed a wealth of practical, useful public awareness, parent education, and informational materials. These include videos, developmental checklists, milestone trackers, parent education guides/materials, training curricula, and electronic resources that can be used on agency websites. All of the materials are visually appealing and FREE. Each participant will leave with a set of sample “Learn the Signs. Act Early” materials! During the session, participants will work in teams to review the campaign’s resources, including video, checklists, and child development guides (like one that includes outdoor play ideas that encourage child development). Participants will also identify at least 3 resources from the "Learn the Signs. Act Early" campaign that they can use in their work with young children and families. Participants will also help Virginia’s Act Early Ambassador identify ways to share the campaign’s resources with families, caregivers, and the medical community on a statewide basis.
WHAT IF ...? UNDERSTANDING ELIGIBILITY, ASSESSMENT, AND TRANSITION REQUIREMENTS THROUGH SCENARIOS

Kyla Patterson
Location: Beach Club A/B

Are you confused about who is required to participate in the annual determination of eligibility? Or are you having trouble figuring out the anticipated date of transition? This session will review how eligibility, assessment and transition requirements are being implemented in Virginia through a series of actual family scenarios. Specifically, scenarios will address the who, what, and when involved in meeting the requirements for eligibility and assessment at the initial and annual IFSP, as well as the requirements for transition out of early intervention. Participants will increase their understanding of the eligibility determination, assessment for service planning and transition requirements and will increase their confidence in applying those requirements in a wide variety of situations.

2:30 - 3:00 pm | Break/Vendors open
3:00 - 4:30 pm | Breakout Sessions

OVERVIEW OF THE AUTISM INSURANCE MANDATE: PROVIDING APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM

Dawn Hendricks, Ph.D.
Location: Coral Reef A/B

In 2011, the Virginia General Assembly passed legislation requiring insurance companies to provide services to children with autism aged 2-6. Specifically, the insurance is to cover the provision of Applied Behavior Analysis for this young population. This legislation was delayed in implementation; however, it is now in effect. This presentation will provide a description of the legislation, the importance of the legislation and the reason why it was passed, an overview of Applied Behavior Analysis and a description of how it is to be used with young children, and the implications of the legislation.

ACT LOCALLY, THINK INCLUSIVELY: COLLABORATIVE FINANCING TO PROMOTE EARLY CHILDHOOD INCLUSION

Katy McCullough and Shelley deFosset
Location: Coral Reef C

Do you have practical experience in providing inclusive services to children in your community? If so, your voice is needed in a guided conversation to share the barriers to local inclusion and the finance strategies for making it happen. Learning from each other, we will explore the administrative considerations, community partners, service delivery models, and settings, funding streams, costs, and supports for including young children with disabilities, focusing particularly on resources for local collaborations.

THE ATTACHMENT PROJECT: A LOVE STORY IN THREE PARTS

Jane Probst, LCSW, Susan Werner, M.D., Lynne Blythe and Victoria Jenkins RNC-OB, CCE, IBCLC
Location: Coral Reef E

The Attachment Project is a collaboration between a local hospital, a pediatrician, a mental health professional, and a local early intervention program in the Culpeper area to address the need for providing information to parents of newborns on the three important steps to creating a secure attachment. Participants will learn how this project was developed, including viewing the video created of local parents demonstrating the ‘Love Story in Three Parts’.

USING EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES TO BUILD SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL SKILLS IN CHILDREN WITH AUTISM

Amanda Armstrong, M.Ed., BCBA
Location: Captain's Table A

Students with autism often have social-emotional challenges, which should not be overlooked during early development. Understanding the scope and sequence in which social-emotional skills develop is essential to teaching these skills to students with autism. This session will focus on using evidence-based practices to create structured instruction and rich environments that support social-emotional skill development.

THE SEVEN KEYS: APPLYING THE PRINCIPLES OF EARLY INTERVENTION INTO EVERYDAY PRACTICES

Susan Sigler
Location: Captain's Table B

In 2007, NECTAC convened a national work-group that produced several consensus documents on principles and practices in early intervention that had been validated through research, model demonstration, and outreach projects. This group published three guiding documents in 2008. In this session, providers will become familiar with two of the documents developed. Activities will be interactive allowing the providers to explore how they can routinely apply the Mission and Principles into their everyday work and how they can use the language of the documents to explain what early intervention is and is not to the stakeholders in their communities. Providers will distinguish between behaviors and attitudes that are consistent/inconsistent with the Seven Key Principles. Providers will demonstrate an ability to critically discuss the Seven Key Principles with other providers.
LET’S GET WRITING!!
Jennie Hammer, M.S., OTR/L, Karen Gesell-Goetz, B.S., COTA/L and Heather Fleming, M.Ed.
Location: Captain’s Table C

Are they “WEADI to Write?” As preschool students transition to kindergarten, we will explore the value of cross-curriculum teaching methods, utilizing “Wonderful warm-ups, Eye and hand coordination activities, Across the day implementation, Developing adaptations, and Independence.” Come learn some wacky out-of-the-box ways of teaching your students pre-writing skills from a multi-disciplinary approach and explore cost-effective ways of teaching these skills using everyday materials. Bringing it home! Help parents learn ways to incorporate these skills in the home.

WE ARE ALL SPECIAL! MEETING THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUAL INFANTS AND TODDLERS
Rochelle Pleasant and Christy John
Location: Beach Club A/B

This session will provide an opportunity for child care providers of infants and toddlers to learn and discuss the benefits and strategies of inclusive child care settings.

Wednesday, July 24th

8:00 - 8:30am | Continental Breakfast/Vendors open
Location: Beach Club Foyer/Exhibit Hall

8:00 - 11:30am | Breakout Seminar 3

SEMINAR 3:
MAKING MATH “COUNT” IN PRESCHOOL
Cathy Cook, M.Ed. and Marilyn Rice, M.Ed.
Location: Captain’s Table B

• Limited to 25 participants. First-come, first-served. Please choose only one make-and-take seminar today.

Preschool is the perfect time for making opportunities for a child to count, compare and measure as teachers make math an integral and active learning experience during the whole day. This workshop session will highlight strategies for effective, developmentally appropriate math instruction. You will find treasures galore for your classroom and a few ideas to send home for families when you attend this interactive session. Math for preschool is “hands on” and should be presented so children want to “stay and play” with the materials that you can learn to make and add to your classroom.

8:00 - 9:30am | Breakout Sessions

BE INFORMED! BE AUTHENTIC! THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX OF YOUR STANDARD TEST TOOL KIT
Nancy Brockway, M.A., OTR/L, Robin Hoofnagle, M.S., CCC-SLP and Yvonnie Hutchison, MSOL, OTR/L
Location: Coral Reef A/B

This presentation examines one early intervention team’s approach to finding practical applications for the use of conventional and authentic assessment tools and techniques, and clinical opinion in order to address the needs of the children and families served. Issues to be addressed include the availability of opportunities and potential limitations inherent in local systems. Participants will develop strategies to capture useful and authentic information during assessment for service planning and ongoing assessment and be able to identify strategies to promote caregiver participation in order to achieve more accuracy in understanding and reporting family routines and priorities to develop functional outcomes.

ACE-IT IN COLLEGE: A CHOICE FOR THE FUTURE
Kathryn Anderson and Renee Bullano
Location: Coral Reef C
Can you imagine college in the future for a young child with intellectual disabilities or autism? Current demonstration projects across the nation are conducting research on this reality. VCU ACE-IT in College is one such project, serving eight students in fully inclusive college classrooms. Come hear from a current ACE-It in College student who happens to be studying for a career in early childhood. She will be joined by a staff member who will answer questions about the program.
COLLABORATION AND COACHING: PART C STYLE
Kim Lephart, PT, DPT, MBA, Sabrina Matthews, MAT and Samantha Williams
Location: Coral Reef D

This interactive presentation brings together an early intervention physical therapist, early childhood educator and a mother of a child with special needs to discuss how collaboration and coaching really works. Participants will learn the difference between transdisciplinary and primary service providers model of team interaction. Participants will learn how the primary coach approach best meets families’ needs and uses specialists as efficiently as possible. Participants will also learn how to identify the best primary service provider for each family. There will be an opportunity for participants to ask questions of the presenters in a panel discussion.

PROVIDING SERVICES AS A MONOLINGUAL PROVIDER IN A MULTILINGUAL COMMUNITY
Jessica Schwab, M.Ed., CCC-SLP and Lauren Piccillo, M.Ed., CCC-SLP
Location: Coral Reef E

On a daily basis, Virginia early intervention specialists provide assessment and treatment for children who are dual-language learners; the majority of providers are monolingual. The purpose of this presentation is to discuss language universals, how to identify if a child is a dual-language learner, the impact of two languages and cultures on children and families, and to propose a working protocol based on evidence-based practices to provide children and families the most valid and least biased evaluation. Specifically, this presentation will discuss research in the areas of: parent/caregiver questionnaires, lexical inventory, language sampling, processing-based assessment, and dynamic assessment.

PREVENTING CHALLENGING BEHAVIOR PART I: DEVELOPING SUPPORTIVE RELATIONSHIPS AND ENVIRONMENTS
Tracy Miller, MHS, OTR/L
Location: Captain’s Table A

• Participants can choose to attend all or part of this series.

Part one of this three part series explores the first step in preventing challenging behavior. Participants will examine their personal attitudes about challenging behavior and how those attitudes influence relationships with children in their care. Through the use of video clips and evidenced-based practice, strategies will be shared that promote responsive relationships between the child, the family and their caregivers and explore the research on setting up supportive environments.

EARLY CHILDHOOD TRAUMA: CONSEQUENCES AND EFFECTS
Kathy Reid-Quiones, Ph.D. and Carole Campbell Swiecicki, Ph.D.
Location: Captain’s Table C

Trauma exposure in early childhood can have significant negative emotional and behavioral effects, including impacting child development. Attendees will learn about the consequences and effects of early childhood trauma exposure. In addition, participants will learn to recognize common signs and symptoms of early childhood trauma.

INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS: SUPPORTING COGNITIVE, LANGUAGE, AND POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT
Kim Moherek Sopko, Ed.D.
Location: Beach Club A/B

This workshop allows participants the opportunity to examine components of effective, developmentally appropriate, and inclusive learning environments in order to design or improve their own classroom learning environment. Participants will consider the physical, social, and temporal components of a learning environment, draw connections between developmentally appropriate practices and learning environments, and discuss how this type of environment provides opportunities for positive guidance thereby resulting in positive behavior. Participants will engage in a small group activity to reflect upon, analyze, and design or re-design their classroom environment.

9:30 - 10:00am | Break/Vendors open

10:00 - 11:30am | Breakout Sessions

MOTHER’S MILK TO MAC AND CHEESE: A COLLABORATIVE ORAL MOTOR FEEDING APPROACH
Kara Trahant, M.S., CCC-SLP, Certified Lactation Counselor and Lynn Wolfe, M.S., OTR/L
Location: Coral Reef A/B

In this interactive session, early intervention professionals will understand the benefits of learning to breastfeed on oral motor and cognitive development. We will look at the symptoms of oral motor/feeding difficulties, screening tools and early intervention eligibility. Participants will learn treatment approaches and strategies for collaboration with other professionals. A case study will highlight one child’s progress with nursing and the transition to solid food.
ALL THE PRESCHOOL BUZZ: WILL IT AFFECT US? PART B UPDATES
Phyllis Mondak and Cheryl Strobel
Location: Coral Reef C

How will the federal support for preschool affect the early childhood field in Virginia? What is already happening with inclusive practices, federal reporting data, professional development, and statewide systems? What’s new with the Foundation Blocks for Early Learning? Come ask questions and discuss what is happening.

TALK, SING, READ, WRITE, PLAY: MAKING EVERY BOOK AN EXPERIENCE
Krista Dawson
Location: Coral Reef D

This workshop reviews research-based practices that help young children develop the skills they need BEFORE they learn to read. Learn how any book can be used with the five practices: Talking, Singing, Reading, Writing and Playing, to deepen a child’s experience and understanding while having fun. Participants will gain awareness of the five early literacy practices; learn how to guide a picture walk; learn how to make book extensions fun and meaningful; take away strategies to use with young children to engage them around books; and be able to transfer knowledge to use with any book. Participants will also see the benefits of connecting with their local libraries and have a better sense of the resources and supports available to them through their library.

IMPROVING PRIVATE INSURANCE REIMBURSEMENT: CODING AND DOCUMENTATION IS THE KEY
Kelly Walsh-Hill, PT
Location: Coral Reef E

Feeling dazed and confused when it comes to dealing with private insurance? This presentation provides an overview of how to bill private insurance for early intervention services. It will cover the medical coding system, establishing medical necessity, the documentation required for reimbursement; handling denials and appeals and assistive technology requests; and documenting in the new IFSP format to make it compatible with private insurance requirements. Key elements to include in your session notes will also be covered.

PREVENTING CHALLENGING BEHAVIOR PART II: BE PROACTIVE! BE POSITIVE! PRACTICAL STRATEGIES THAT WORK
Deborah Stepien and Sheryl Fahey
Location: Captain’s Table A

Participants can choose to attend all or part of this series.

The Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) is focused on promoting the social emotional development and school readiness of young children birth to age 5. This session will focus on practical strategies to use within your classroom to teach social skills to all children.

EARLY CHILDHOOD TRAUMA: WORKING WITH YOUNG TRAUMA VICTIMS
Kathy Reid-Quinones, Ph.D. and Carole Campbell Swiecicki, Ph.D.
Location: Captain’s Table C

Effective work with young children who have experienced trauma requires skill and creativity. Attendees will learn how a child’s history of trauma might impact the course of services from various disciplines (e.g., physical therapy, education, medicine). In addition, this workshop will focus on helping providers learn practical strategies for use in their work with children who may have experienced trauma.

11:30 - 1:00pm | Plated lunch provided/Vendors open
Location: Beach Club A/B

1:00 - 4:30pm | Breakout Seminar 4

PLAYTRAYS YOUR WAY! COLLECT. COMBINE. CONNECT.
Nicole Root
Location: Captain's Table B

Limited to 25 participants. First-come, first-served. Please choose only one make-and-take seminar today.

Learn how to create successful playtray combinations to provide enticing, hands-on, sensory-rich activities for young children time and time again. Participants will have the opportunity to get their own hands on a variety of open-ended materials and begin designing their own unique combinations for playtray fun!
1:00 - 2:30pm | Breakout Sessions

IDENTIFYING EARLY INDICATORS OF AUTISM FROM BIRTH THROUGH EARLY CHILDHOOD
Naomi S. Rock, Ph.D.
Location: Coral Reef A/B

Is it possible to identify a child who may have Autism Spectrum Disorder in infancy? The answer to that question will be discussed and answered with research-based evidence during this session. Distinct atypical behavioral characteristics of children can be observed during infancy and are more pronounced by the child's second birthday. The characteristics are often overlooked or explained away by parents and doctors as being a normal part of development or just being a different child. All educators, medical personnel, providers and family should become familiar with the behavioral characteristics of autism in children from birth to early childhood.

HOW DO YOU RATE?
Anne Brager and Beth Tolley
Location: Coral Reef C

Increase your team's inter-rater reliability through an increased understanding of the child indicator ratings and how the ratings are translated into progress determinations. Participants will have the opportunity to practice coming to consensus using resources developed to improve reliability with various case studies.

HAVING FUN WITH MATH, SCIENCE, LITERACY, COMMUNICATION AND SOCIAL SKILLS
Selina Flores
Location: Coral Reef D

Come and become your student. Look, touch, smell and learn like your students! Experience the learning process just as your students will as soon as you enter the room. Turn your toys and mix matched items into highly engaging discovery centers. You will write or draw your ideas in your homemade journal, test out your hypothesis and record your findings. You will work in small cooperative groups and time will be set aside towards the end of the session for the adult-side of your brain to share additional ideas and “ahas!”

PARTNERING FOR QUALITY
Pam Booker, Greeta Holiday and Beth Pruitt
Location: Coral Reef E

The purpose of this session is to share experiences and information on the unique collaboration between agencies and to ensure high quality services are provided within natural environments for toddlers on the autism spectrum.

PREVENTING CHALLENGING BEHAVIOR PART III: IDENTIFYING TRIGGERS AND TEACHING REPLACEMENT BEHAVIORS
Debbie Lickey and Susie Powell
Location: Captain’s Table A

Participants can choose to attend all or part of this series.

This session defines what constitutes challenging behavior and explores the purpose and function of that behavior. Participants will learn to identify triggers for behaviors as well as consequences that unwittingly sustain undesired behaviors. The Positive Behavior Approach will be introduced and will include strategies to facilitate children’s ability to learn new skills in order to adopt positive replacement behaviors.

HOW TO IMPLEMENT FAMILY COST SHARE PRACTICES IN REAL FAMILY SITUATIONS
Kyla Patterson
Location: Captain’s Table C

Increase your understanding of Virginia’s early intervention family cost share practices and your confidence in applying those practices in a wide variety of family financial situations. Virginia’s family cost share practices include how to determine a family’s ability or inability to pay for early intervention services; how to document their choices regarding use of public or private insurance to pay for services; and ensuring notice, consent, and family safeguard requirements are met. This session will walk participants through the steps in the family cost share process using a variety of family financial situations. Documentation requirements, use of the sliding fee scale, and family safeguards will be discussed for each situation.

2:30 - 3:00pm | Break/Vendors open

3:00 - 4:30pm | Breakout Sessions
iPads are a fun and engaging tool for young children to use. We'll discuss our experiences with young children with and without disabilities and their use of various applications on the iPad. Attendees will leave with ideas on how to use iPads in their classroom.

**MEDICAID WAIVERS: HELPING FAMILIES OF YOUNG CHILDREN ACCESS EDCD, ID, AND DD WAIVERS**
Ronda Lewis and Lynne Blythe
Location: Coral Reef C

Brief overview of Elderly or Disabled with Consumer Direction (EDCD), Intellectual Disability (ID) & Individual and Family Developmental Disabilities Support (DD) Waivers. Participants will have the opportunity to develop specific action plans to support families (or to support their own family and child) in accessing the waivers, including how to advocate/navigate challenges.

**MAKING THE MOST OF CIRCLE TIME: DIFFERENTIATING FOR DIVERSE LEARNING NEEDS**
Elizabeth Merce
Location: Coral Reef D

Learn how to engage children with diverse learning needs within the same circle time to maximize the educational classroom time. The engaging games and instructional techniques can also be used as reinforcing center activities. Giveaways will help add to your educational resources.

**SPECIAL QUEST: BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH FAMILIES**
Marsha M. Goodman and Ipek Taffee
Location: Coral Reef E

This session will present planning strategies and communication techniques that will boost staff’s competence and confidence in communicating with families of children with disabilities.

**IT’S ABOUT MORE THAN COOKIES: ENHANCING COMMUNICATION IN ALL CHILDREN WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER**
Dawn Hendricks, Ph.D.
Location: Captain’s Table A

Children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) will present a wide array of skills related to communication. Some will be quite verbal, while others will be unable to speak. Many will fall somewhere in between. The VCU Autism Center for Excellence has developed a protocol and resources to assist teams in improving the communication capabilities of all children with ASD, including those who may require alternative modes to communicate effectively. This presentation is designed to enhance the understanding of what communication is; why communication is important for young children; and advance the expectations of team members regarding the identification of communication goals, implementation of communication learning opportunities, and commitment to developing a long-term communication system for each child with ASD.

**BREAKING NEW GROUND IN EARLY INTERVENTION ASSESSMENT**
Judith Martens, LCSW, IMH-E (IV) and Robin Crawley, LCSW, LICSWT
Location: Captain’s Table C

This presentation will offer a comprehensive and creative new model for early intervention programs offering a multidisciplinary and family-centered approach that incorporates infant mental health theory and practice into existing practices to assess social and emotional delays in infants and toddlers with developmental delays, physical or intellectual disabilities and/or who are at risk for social and emotional delays and disorders of attachment.

4:30pm | Turn in conference evaluations
VENDOR LIST

Brookes Publishing Company
Virginia Head Start Association
Chesapeake Bay Academy
Cutie Patootie Headbands by Abbey
Rivanna Music
St. Mary’s Home
Kaplan Early Learning Company
Abrams Learning Trends
Thirty-One Gifts
Tobii ATI
PEATC
School Specialty
The Arc of Virginia
Discovery Toys
Lakeshore Learning Materials
Literacy Fun

HeartFelt Creations
TeachTown
Spectrum of Disorders: Consulting and Training
Fourth Lloyd Productions
Pearson
Every Child Matters
VA Division for Early Childhood
VCU Partnership for People with Disabilities
Infant & Toddler Connection of Virginia
Infant & Toddler Connection of Fairfax-Falls Church
Virginia Department of Health
VCU Partnership for People with Disabilities
Child Care Aware of Virginia
TTACs statewide
Vendor Session Schedule

Monday - July 22, 2013

12:15 - 12:45  Guide By Your Side: Providing Supports to Families of Children with Hearing Loss - Irene Schmalz
1:00 - 1:30   Virginia’s New Mental Health Endorsement - Bonnie Grifa

Tuesday - July 23, 2013

10:00 - 10:30 Take a Science Safari on the Beach!
11:00 - 11:30 Guide By Your Side: Providing Supports to Families of Children with Hearing Loss (repeat session) - Irene Schmalz
11:45 - 12:15 Kids Count Math
1:00 - 1:30   Virginia’s New Mental Health Endorsement (repeat session) - Bonnie Grifa
2:00 - 2:30   The Healthy Smile Connection
3:00 - 3:30   Unlock the Power of Blocks

Wednesday - July 24, 2013

9:30 - 10:00  Guide By Your Side: Providing Supports to Families of Children with Hearing Loss (repeat session) - Irene Schmalz
11:45 - 12:15 The Healthy Smile Connection (repeat session)
1:00 - 1:30   Virginia’s New Mental Health Endorsement (repeat session) - Bonnie Grifa

There may be more vendor sessions available. Please check the Vendor Hall for updates.

Vendor Session Descriptions

Monday, July 22nd

GUIDE BY YOUR SIDE: PROVIDING SUPPORTS TO FAMILIES OF CHILDREN WITH HEARING LOSS
Irene Schmalz, VA GBYS Coordinator & Daphne Miller, EHDI Follow up Coordinator
Location: Vendor Hall – Partnership for People with Disabilities table

The Virginia Department of Health’s Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) program is committed to identifying hearing loss in infants before three months old and, if a loss is determined, ensuring enrollment in early intervention services by six months of age. A key feature of the Virginia EHDI program is its support to families through the Guide By Your Side (GBYS) Program. This vendor information session highlights both programs -- EHDI and GBYS.

VIRGINIA’S NEW MENTAL HEALTH ENDORSEMENT
Bonnie Grifa, State Early Childhood Mental Health Coordinator
The Partnership for People with Disabilities at VCU
Location: Vendor Hall – Partnership for People with Disabilities table

Come listen to a short presentation about Virginia’s new Infant Mental Health Endorsement which will begin in November 2013. The Virginia Association for Infant Mental Health Endorsement informs prospective employers, agencies, and peers about culturally sensitive, relationship-focused practice promoting infant mental health. Those who earn the endorsement will be recognized for their education, training, leadership and work experience within the infant and family field. There are four levels to the Infant Mental Health Endorsement – Infant Family Associate, Infant Family Specialist, Infant Mental Health Specialist and Infant Mental Health Mentor. Each level recognizes the educational experiences, specialized in-service training experiences and work experiences appropriate for best service outcomes for infants, toddlers and families. Information about the endorsement, requirements for each level, possible financial support as well as handouts will be shared.
Tuesday, July 23rd

**TAKE A SCIENCE SAFARI ON THE BEACH!**
Ron Mohl, Lead Educational Presenter, Lakeshore Learning Materials
Location: Vendor Hall – Meet at the Lakeshore table

This vendor session will take place on the beach! Meet at the Lakeshore vendor table and the group will be guided outside for a Science Safari! Participants will take part in an interactive journey, where they will explore developmentally appropriate science activities specifically designed for the early childhood learning environment. Inspired by the natural curiosity of a child, materials such as Growing Things, Parachutes, and Sand Castles will be used in this experience.

**GUIDE BY YOUR SIDE: PROVIDING SUPPORTS TO FAMILIES OF CHILDREN WITH HEARING LOSS (REPEAT)**
Irene Schmalz, VA GBYS Coordinator & Daphne Miller, EHDI Follow up Coordinator
Location: Vendor Hall – Partnership for People with Disabilities table

The Virginia Department of Health's Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) program is committed to identifying hearing loss in infants before three months old and, if a loss is determined, ensuring enrollment in early intervention services by six months of age. A key feature of the Virginia EHDI program is its support to families through the Guide By Your Side (GBYS) Program. This vendor information session highlights both programs -- EHDI and GBYS.

**KIDS COUNT MATH**
Ron Mohl, Lead Educational Presenter, Lakeshore Learning Materials
Location: Vendor Hall – Lakeshore table

This is a Lunch Breakout Session so bring your box lunch and come watch Ron in action! Kids Count Math includes hands-on activities for math. Learn how to use the materials to incorporate concepts like matching, sorting, counting, patterns, quantity, and measurement into the learning environment.

**VIRGINIA'S NEW MENTAL HEALTH ENDORSEMENT (REPEAT)**
Bonnie Grifa, State Early Childhood Mental Health Coordinator
The Partnership for People with Disabilities at VCU
Location: Vendor Hall – Partnership for People with Disabilities table

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**THE HEALTHY SMILE CONNECTION**
Kami Piscitelli, BSDH, RDH, Special Needs Oral Health Coordinator
Virginia Department of Health Office of Family Health Services Dental Health Program
Location: Vendor Hall – Virginia Department of Health table

Kami Piscitelli has been a dental hygienist for over 25 years with experience in private and public health dentistry, as well as over 12 years in pediatric dentistry exclusively. Learn from her and gain a better understanding of dental health's impact on overall health. Find out about prevention strategies for good oral health in young children, including those with disabilities.

**UNLOCK THE POWER OF BLOCKS**
Ron Mohl, Lead Educational Presenter, Lakeshore Learning Materials
Location: Vendor Hall – Lakeshore table

The goal of this session is to look at blocks as a way to engage learners in multiple areas of your curriculum. We will explore the power of blocks with math, language, science, and music. By bringing intentional teaching to the child, we will complement the natural engagement that can be found with blocks with critical thinking and cooperative learning.
Wednesday, July 24th

GUIDE BY YOUR SIDE: PROVIDING SUPPORTS TO FAMILIES OF CHILDREN WITH HEARING LOSS (REPEAT)
Irene Schmalz, VA GBYS Coordinator & Daphne Miller, EHDI Follow up Coordinator
Location: Vendor Hall – Partnership for People with Disabilities table

The Virginia Department of Health’s Early Hearing Detection & Intervention (EHDI) program is committed to identifying hearing loss in infants before three months old and, if a loss is determined, ensuring enrollment in early intervention services by six months of age. A key feature of the Virginia EHDI program is its support to families through the Guide By Your Side (GBYS) Program. This vendor information session highlights both programs -- EHDI and GBYS.

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Creating Connections to Shining Stars: Virginia’s Collaborative Early Childhood Birth through Five Conference

JULY 22 – 24, 2013
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA

Harolynn (Lynn) O. Wiley, Ph.D.
2013 CCSS Conference Coordinator
VDOE TTAC at GMU

Sandy L. Wilberger, M.Ed.
2013 CCSS Conference Coordinator
VDOE TTAC at VCU
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Monday July 22, 2013
Tuesday July 23, 2013
Wednesday July 24, 2013

Virginia’s Collaborative Early Childhood Birth through Five Conference
To all volunteers

THANK YOU!

Creating Connections to Shining Stars is far better because of your commitment & support!

This year you were able to access an electronic version of the conference program. Did you know that the session handouts can also be accessed via the links in the e-version? Check it out at: http://ttaonline.org.

Go to the Events tab, Early Childhood, and Creating Connections to Shining Stars 2013.

Next year, you will again have the option to download the conference program electronically. Bring it with you on your iPad®, tablet or smartphone! Please help us GO GREEN! We would like to print fewer paper programs!

Scan this code for electronic version of the CCSS 2013 program.